

Representative Michael F. Doyle – (D, PA)
Representative Tim Murphy – (R, PA)
Representative Joe Pitts – (R, PA)

STATUS OF EPA ACTIVITIES IN DIMOCK, PA

QUESTION: What is the status of EPA's investigation in Dimock?

ANSWER (as of February 15, 2012):

- EPA's January 19, 2012 removal action initiated under the response authorities of CERCLA included sampling of approximately sixty-one (61) residences. This number has increased to sixty-eight (68) residences for potential sampling based on EPA well surveys.
- Fifty-seven homes (57) have been sampled to date;
- Alternate water continues to be provided to the four (4) residences initially identified as needing water;
- Sampling operations are being suspended as of February 15th for three weeks as there are several residents residing in other areas (e.g., wintering in Florida) and do not plan to return to the Dimock area until March or April. During this period analytical data will continue to be received, reviewed and evaluated;
- Three (3) residences are currently scheduled for sampling in March (these are some of the residents residing out of the area).
- Eight (8) additional residences remain to be scheduled (either are out of town or have not yet responded);
- To date there have not been any homes that have declined having their well water sampled. Scheduling continues in accordance with availability of residents.
- Additional actions, including any future sampling and/or provision of alternate water will depend on a review of the final sampling data.

BACKGROUND: Based on information from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and Cabot Oil & Gas, consultation with an EPA toxicologist and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), and an EPA well survey, EPA determined that a number of homes in the Dimock area contained hazardous substances, some of which were not naturally occurring.

On January 19, 2012, using response authorities under CERCLA, EPA initiated a removal action at the Dimock Residential Groundwater Site in Dimock, PA. This action included provision of alternate water to four (4) residences and well water sampling at approximately sixty-one (61) residences. An EPA well survey increased the number of potential residential well samples to sixty-eight (68).

Ron Borsellino 215-814-3170
Shawn Garvin 215-814-2900